GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:966
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2005
RAJIV GANDHI GRAMEEN VIDYUTIKARAN YOJANA .
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Dhanaraju Dr. K.;Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar;Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb;Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched a programme `Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana` with an aim to provide electricity to every home within five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has drawn any scheme to tap the available sources of alternative energy to meet the set targets;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of villages likely to be covered for electrification in each State during 2005-06;

(f) the allocation made for the same;

(g) the steps Government proposes to take to achieve the aim; and

(h) the role of NTPC, NHPC and Power Grid Corporation under this programme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. A scheme `Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana` has been introduced in April, 2005 for providing access to electricity to all Rural Households.

Under this scheme 90% capital subsidy would be provided for projects for creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB), Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) and Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System. The scheme inter alia provides for financing of electrification of all un- electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country with 100% capital subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti Programme in all rural habitations.

For projects to be eligible for capital subsidy under this scheme prior commitment of the States would be taken before sanction of the projects for deployment of franchisees for management of rural distribution through franchisees who could be Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Users Association, Cooperatives or individual entrepreneurs, the Panchayat institutions would be associated.

Based on the consumer mix and the prevailing consumer tariff and likely load, the Bulk Supply Tariff (BST) for the franchisee will be determined after ensuring commercial viability of the franchisee. Wherever feasible, bidding may be attempted for determining the BST. While administering the scheme, prior commitments will be taken from the State Government regarding :-

(i) Determination of bulk supply tariff for franchisees in a manner that ensures their commercial viability.

(ii) Provision of requisite revenue subsidy by the State Government to the State Utilities as required under the Electricity Act.

(c) & (d) : Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, MNES is formulating the scheme for electrification of 25,000 remote village through non-conventional energy sources.

(e) : Presently under the scheme, 127 projects for electrification of 54642 un- electrified villages and 2783303 households have been sanctioned for the states of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Kerala, Uttaranchal, Haryana, J&K and Madhya Pradesh involving total outlay of Rs.4904.33 crore. The implementing agencies of the states of West Bengal, Bihar, UP and Rajasthan have indicated their plan for electrification of 9312 villages and 287616 households during 2005-06 as indicated in Annexure-I.

(f) : An amount of Rs.1100 crore has been allocated for Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana for 2005-06. However, the Ministry has requested Ministry of Finance to enhance it to Rs.2500 crore.

(g) : Government will create infrastructure for rural electrification by providing 90% capital subsidy for projects for creation of:

(i) Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with one 33/11 kV (or 66/11 kV) substation in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System.

(ii) Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all un-electrified villages/habitations and provision of distribution transformer(s) of appropriate capacity in every village/habitation.

(iii) Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System from conventional sources for Villages/Habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s). The implementing agency is Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd.

(h) : The services of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) have been offered to the states for assisting them in the execution of rural electrification Projects as per their willingness and requirement. With a view to augment the implementation capacities for the programme, REC has entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with NTPC, POWERGRID, NHPC and DVC to make available CPSUs` project management expertise and capabilities to states wishing to use their services. This is being operationalised through a suitable Tripartite Agreement. The project implementation work for 41 sanctioned projects in 40 districts have been allocated to Central Power Sector Utilities (CPSUs) by the states of West Bengal (5), UP (8) and Bihar (28). For effective implementation of the projects, REC has also designed the framework for implementation assigning role/responsibilities of State Government, state utilities/implementing agency and involving formulation of technical specifications, procurement and bidding conditions, guidelines for project formulation adopted by the implementing states.